

SLEIGHT IS DISMISSED

BOARD OF SAFETY TAKES PROMPT ACTION IN HIS CASE.

He Admitted that He Had Misread the Call for the Haas Fire Last Sunday Morning.

SPRINKLING BIDS TO-MORROW

FOR THIRD TIME THEY WILL BE RECEIVED BY WORKS BOARD.

Attorney James W. Noel Will Assist the Council Committee in Investigating Logsdon Charges.

R. M. Sleight, the fireman of truck company No. 4, stationed on East Washington street, who reported the wrong alarm, the company when called to the Haas fire, was dismissed from the service of the city by the Board of Public Safety yesterday afternoon.

He was charged by Chief Coats with neglect of duty. Sleight did not dispute the facts. He admitted that he had mistaken the tape record "3" for "30," and had not switched on the house gong. He said it was an honest mistake, and he only asked consideration from the board.

The board considered all the circumstances of the case and decided to dismiss Sleight. The board was reluctant to visit such punishment on Sleight, as he had but once before been before the board, and since that time had shown full recognition of discipline and was industrious.

The board, however, could not overlook the fact that such mistake might cost much, and that in the case of the Haas fire it might have been serious if the rescue of Mrs. Haas and her two daughters had not been accomplished without ladders.

Sleight is a Democrat, and had been on the regular force since February, 1902. The board appointed William Huber, Democrat, to succeed him.

The action of the board is meant to be much more than a punishment of Sleight. The tape which he misread was shown at the board meeting, and was a correct and unmistakable record of the alarm.

The board intends its action as admonition to every member charged with the sometimes tedious but important watch duty to exercise care and vigilance, and also intended to mean that laxity will be severely dealt with.

Chief Coats says the addition of the new truck companies in a few weeks will give Indianapolis nine companies and an abundant supply of ladders. He thinks if interior alterations were made a combination chemical and truck should be added at headquarters to the central district.

Between Washington, Illinois, Michigan and East streets there are a number of flat buildings, only three or four of which are recognized as fireproof, and at any minute a fire might make its way into the building and be out of control.

Chief Coats says that he believes a fire might make its way into the building and be out of control. The combination truck and chemical, provided with extension ladders, would always be serviceable, he thinks.

The board resents the action of an afternoon paper that it had permitted the public to be deceived as to the true cause of the failure of truck 4 to reach the Haas fire since Sunday. This is not the fact. Chief Coats knew of the cause Sunday afternoon, but did not make it public, believing that his duty led him to report the facts to the board.

The charges reached Chairman Keller, of the board, yesterday morning. He told Mr. Bryson and Mr. Schopenhauer of them during the day, and they agreed that action must be taken at the meeting yesterday afternoon. The members of the board believe it would have been in the interest of the city to have Chief Coats made the real cause public as soon as he learned of it, but in the course of his duty he was bound to report the facts to his superior authority, which is one of the chief's characteristics. The representation that the board took was also wrong. The chief sent no recommendation.

NEW SPRINKLING BIDS.

They Will Be Received by the Board of Works To-Morrow.

For the third time bids will be received by the Board of Public Works to-morrow for sprinkling the streets from May 1 to Oct. 15. According to the advertisement, bids will be received for one and three years, although the law seems to recognize no right of the board to make a contract for longer than one year for sprinkling. It is doubtful, however, if a bid is made for the three-year contract.

The schedule of streets attached to the specifications omits all of Tuxedo and Irvington. It is explained that the purpose is to include such streets as it is deemed desirable to sprinkle that territory under a section of the law which provides that the board to add streets whenever it so desires. Irvington was annexed to the city nearly a year ago.

The board has kept the sprinkling inspector, Howard Brock, on the pay roll since last October. It is explained that he was kept to "prepare for this season." Since the 1st of February E. O. Marquette has been assistant to the sprinkling inspector, although no sprinkling has been done. The schedule is made up of the streets sprinkled last season, with some omissions and additions.

The board has been criticised for keeping a sprinkling inspector on the pay roll of adding an assistant during the winter. It is explained that the sprinkling inspector was used during the winter in delivering the Brightwood water works and making inspections of water connections. Brightwood water bills are made out semi-annually. Marquette, it is explained, has been kept busy assisting the sprinkling inspector and also the watering inspector.

JAMES W. NOEL SELECTED.

He Will Conduct the Investigation for the Council Committee.

The Council committee on investigation and impeachment met yesterday afternoon and agreed to employ James W. Noel to conduct the examination of witnesses supporting the charges in relation to the street sprinkling contract. Mr. Noel told Chairman Wynne he would accept this duty if the committee united in asking him. Mr. Wynne and Mr. Eppert agreed and Mr. Shaw, the Democrat, said he would consider Mr. Noel, but he felt he would be satisfactory.

Mr. Noel has been an attorney here for ten years and was a representative from this county in the Legislature of 1899. Chairman Wynne said Mr. Noel would be given ample time to prepare for the investigation before a meeting of the committee would be called.

BOARD OF WORKS ROUTINE.

PETITIONS FILED AND REFERRED TO THE ENGINEER.

For a five-foot cement walk and stone curb in Broadway street, from Twenty-first street to Twenty-second street.

For the opening and extension of Railroad avenue from Dewey avenue to Arlington avenue.

For gravel roadway, stone curb and cement walks on both sides of Cable street, from New York street to Michigan street.

For cement walks and stone curb on ways in Sherman drive, from Washington street to Michigan street.

PAPER ORDERED.

For asphalt roadway and curb in Walnut street, from Senate avenue to the canal.

For asphalt roadway and curb in St. Clair street, from Senate avenue to the canal.

For block roadway and curb in Pratt street, from Senate avenue to the canal.

For cement walk and stone curb on the north side of Twenty-eighth street, from Talbott street to Illinois street.

For brick roadway in the first alley north of Tenth street, from Ashland avenue to Cornell avenue.

For grading and graveling the alley between Jackson avenue and Hamilton avenue, from the first alley north of Washington street to Third street.

For gravel roadway, brick gutters, stone curb and cement walks in Thirty-third street, from Northwestern avenue to the canal.

For gravel roadway, brick gutters, stone curb and cement walks in Thirty-fourth street, from Northwestern avenue to the canal.

For cement walks and stone curb in Mount street, from Washington street to Jackson street.

For a local sewer in Sheldon street, from Nineteenth street to Roosevelt avenue.

For cement walks and stone curb on the west side of Northwestern avenue, from Thirty-second street to Thirty-third street.

MEXICAN WAR VETERANS

OFFICERS IN THE CITY TO ARRANGE FOR SEPTEMBER ENCAMPMENT.

Ranks of the Heroic Band Rapidly Thinning, but a Notable Meeting Is Anticipated.

N. T. Ogden, of Cincinnati, president of the National Association of Mexican Veterans, James C. Carlton, of Bedford, national secretary, and Dr. Jere. Woodson, of Gosport, assistant national secretary for Indiana, are in the city to confer with the local committee on arrangements at 9 o'clock this morning at the Grand Hotel, to complete arrangements for the meeting of the national association in this city on the 16th and 17th of September next.

This year the national association will meet in dual convention—the Transrocky Mountain Veterans will meet at San Francisco the 19th and 20th of August, the anniversary of the battles of Contreras and Churubusco, under the auspices of the California veterans; and the Eastern and Mississippi valley veterans will meet in Indianapolis in September, on the anniversary of the battles of Molino del Rey, Chapultepec, Guadalupe, and San Cosmo, and the entry into the city of Mexico, the 14th day of September, 1847, of General Scott's victorious army. The Eastern division will be under the immediate management of the officers of the national association. The transmountain division will meet at the same time of the National Encampment.

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On account of the feebleness of the large majority of the old Mexican soldiers and their general impotency there is a decided disposition to dissolve the national association after this year and substitute state organizations instead, and the Indianapolis and San Francisco meetings will probably be the last of the national meetings of the old heroes. Secretary Carlton has taken steps to obtain through the Pension Bureau the names and postoffice addresses of all the survivors of the Mexican war in order that the national association may be able to send postal card invitations to them all to come to Indianapolis in September, the anniversary of the battle of Contreras.

The survivors number something less than 4,000, the remainder of the grand army (for those days) of 112,000 volunteers and regulars engaged in the war. Indianapolis has the largest number of veterans in the Union in that war.

Men who study the military achievements of the great warriors of the world, Napoleon, Caesar, Hannibal, Cromwell, Grant, Napoleon, Washington, Wellington, Grant, Sherman, and the like, are not likely to be of great events in military history, but they do not find a record of victories more remarkable than those of the Mexican war army achieved in the Mexican war. In many respects this army was the most effective for size that the world has ever produced. Nearly all of the renowned leaders of the Union and Confederate armies were in the Mexican war. When the event is recalled that the City of Mexico, containing at the time over 300,000 inhabitants and held by Santa Anna with 9,000 of Mexico's best troops, was captured by General Scott's army of 6,000 Americans, the odds against the invading force may be compared. At Monterrey, Buena Vista, and the battle of Chapultepec, the overwhelming forces confronted the American soldiers. There were no more than 10,000 men, the discipline, fighting quality and endurance of the men who served under General Scott and his able assistants, General Kearney in the Chihuahua campaign.

The old army is vanishing. The years of the young soldiers of the grand army have passed beyond the allotted age of three score and ten. The ages of the great warriors of the world range from eighty to ninety.

The citizens of Indianapolis, it is promised, will extend to these old white-haired veterans such a welcome as they have never experienced in any city which has hitherto received the survivors of the Mexican war. The old soldiers have crossed the Styx, and they are waiting on the other shore for the few legions to join them; and

"On Fame's eternal camping ground Their silent tents are spread, And Glory guards with solemn round The bivouac of the dead."

THOSE WHO ARE EXPECTED.

Among the distinguished Mexican veterans who are expected to attend and address the meeting are Gen. Law Wallace, of Indiana, Gen. James Longstreet, of Georgia, Col. W. F. Cloud, of Missouri, Maj. S. P. Tufts, of Illinois, and Gen. Simon Bolivar Buckner, of Kentucky, all of whom served in the civil war on one side or the other.

Such Mexican veterans as may be in the city to-day are expected to be at the Grand Hotel at 9 o'clock this morning.

Mr. Carlton, who is thoroughly conversant with the statistics of the association, says there are now alive in the United States barely 4,000 veterans of the Mexican war. In January last, according to the figures in the United States Pension Office, there were only 278 in Indiana, but Mr. Carlton says many have died since then, and that the real number of Indiana survivors is between 230 and 260. In the six New England States there are only 100 living.

The business of the officers who are here and who will meet at the Grand Hotel this morning will be to complete arrangements for the national meeting. Transportation reductions will be sought and it will be ascertained if the meeting can be held in Indianapolis. At the national meeting in Cincinnati the Board of Trade of that city gave the association \$500 to assist in defraying expenses, \$300 of which was returned unused. Some such help may be given in this city.

Krusse & Dewenter, celebrated warm-air furnaces, No. 427-429 East Washington street.

MCCRAY TRIES TO SECURE

ATTORNEY FOR SAM MARTIN SCORES CASS CONWAY.

He Alleges that Conway and Two Detectives Got the Colored Ghouls Intoxicated.

OPENING STATEMENT OF TRIAL

THEY ARE MADE AFTER THE SELECTION OF A JURY.

Court Stenographer Tells of Martin's Grand Jury Testimony—Other Local Court News.

In the case against Sam Martin, the colored man charged with grave robbing, a jury was secured in the Criminal Court yesterday afternoon, and the State's attorneys examined several witnesses. County Prosecutor Ruckelshaus made his statement to the jury early in the afternoon, and after former Judge McCray, one of the attorneys for Martin, stated the prisoner's case.

Considerable time was taken up in the argument as to the admissibility of a certain class of evidence. Mr. Ruckelshaus, in outlining the State's position in the case, told the jury that the State would produce Martin's own testimony before the grand jury, which was practically a confession of his guilt. In support of this statement the State sought to put A. C. Metcalf, one of the official court stenographers, on the witness stand, to show what Martin had said before the grand jury. To this the defense objected, and Attorney McCray gave their reason. He asked the court's permission to offer testimony to the effect that what Martin had said in the grand jury room was got out of him through fear caused by threats.

McCray went on to say they could show that after the trial of the about the were locked up in a room at the police station with Attorney Cass Conway, who sought to extort a promise from them to go before the grand jury and confess. McCray said these men had before that promised him (McCray), who was their attorney, that they would give no evidence against themselves. He had advised them to put a padlock on their tongue and throw the key in the well. When taken before the grand jury the first time they did refuse to testify. McCray said that on one occasion they were taken into Police Judge Stubbs' office and given whisky, but still refused to talk. He said that finally Conway told Martin that it was his duty to go before the grand jury and testify, and further told him that McCray was standing with Judge Alford; that McCray was not in the ring and could do the prisoner no good; that he (Conway) was the only one that could take care of his case. CONWAY'S ALLEGED ASSERTIONS.

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